His Majesties
ANSWER
TO THE
PETITION
OF
The LORDS and COMMONS
in PARLIAMENT assembled.

Presented to His Majesty at YORK,
June 17. 1642.

TOGETHER WITH
A Catalogue of the names of the Lords that subscribed to Levie Horse to assist His Majesty in defence of His Royall Person, the two Houses of Parliament, and the Protestant Religion.

Printed at London in the yeare,
M DC XLII.

To the Kings most Excellent Majestie:

The Humble Petition of the Lords and Commons in PARLIAMENT assembled.

YOur Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, have lately received a Petition from a great number of the Gentry, Free-holders, and other inhabitants of the Counties of York, assembled there by Your Majesties Command the third of June, wherein they declare unto Us, That having taken a resolution to addres themselves unto Your *Majestie* in the humble way of a Petition, for the redresse of those Grievances which they now lie under, they were violently interrupted and affronted therein by the Earle of *Lyndsey*, the Lord *Savill*, and others, and notwithstanding all the meanes they could use to present their just desires to Your *Majesty*, yet they could not prevail with your *Majesty* to accept of their Petition; The Copie whereof they have sent to us, with an humble desire, That we would take such course therein as may tend to the preservation of their Liberties, and the Peace of the Kingdome; And that we would addresse our selves to Your *Majesty* in their behalf, that by our means their desires may find better acceptation with Your *Majesty*. Whereupon having seriously weighed, and considered the particulars of those their Complaints and Desires, as they are laid down in their Petition, and finding that the Grievances they complaine of are the increase of the Miseries formerly sustained by that County, (which hath well-nigh for three yeers last past been the Tragicall Stage of Armies and War) by reason of Your Majesties distance in Residence, & difference in Councels from Your great Councel the Parliament, begetting great distempers and distractions throughout the Kingdome, and especially in that Countie; The drawing to those Parts great numbers of discontented persons, that may too justly be feared do affect the publike Ruine for their private advantage; The drawing together of many Companies of the Trained Bands, and others both Horse and Foote of this County, and retaining multitudes of Commanders and Cavaliers from other parts; The daily resort of Recusants to Your Majesties Court at York; The great preparations of Armes and other warlike Provisions, to the great terrour and amazement of Your Majesties peaceable Subjects, and causing a great decay of Trade and Commerce amongst them. All and every of which particulars are against the Law, which your Majesty hath made so many and so frequent Protestations to uphold and maintain. And the Lords and Commons finding on the other side their humble desires to be, That your Majestie would harken to your Parliament, and declining all other Counsels whatsoever, unite your Confidence to Your parliament, and that Your Majestie would not divide Your Subjects joynt duty to Your Majestie, the Parliament and Kingdome, nor destroy the Essence of Your great Counsell and highest Court, by subjecting the Determinations and Counsells thereof to the Counsells and Opinions of any private persons whatsoever; That Your majesty having passed an Act, That this parliament shall not be dissolved, but by Act of Parliament, Your Majesty would not doe any thing tending

tending thereunto, by commanding away the Lords and great Officers, whose attendance is necessary thereunto; That Your Majesty having expressed Your confidence in the affections of that Countie, and the Cavaliers and others of that quality, who seeme to have little Interest of affections to the publique good, their language and behaviour speaking nothing but Division and War, and their advantage consisting in that which is most destructive to others. And lastly, that in such Consultations and Propositions as Your Majestie maketh to that Countie, such may not be thrust upon them as men of that Countie, that neither by their fortune or residence are any part of it.

All which their humble and most just desires being according to Law, which Your Majesty hath so often declared should be the Measure and Rule of Your Government and Actions; And we Your Majesties most faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons fully concurring with the Gentlemen and others of the County of York, in their assurance that those desires of theirs will abundantly redound to the glory of God, the honour and safety of Your Majesty, the good of Your Posterity, and the Peace and Prosperity of this Kingdome; we humbly beseech Your Majesty graciously to harken to them, and to grant them; and that You would joyne with your Parliament in a speedy and effectuall course for the Preservation of their liberties, and the Peace of the Kingdome, which duty as we are now called upon by the Countie to discharge, so doe we stand engaged to God and man for the performance thereof by the trust reposed in us, and by our solemn Vow and Protestation; And Your Majestie, together with us, stands engaged by the like Obligation of trust, and of an Oath, besides the many and earnest professions and protestations, which your majesty hath made to this purpose to Your whole Kingdome in generall, and to that County in particular, the peace and quiet of the Kingdome (as is well observed by these Gentlemen and Free-holders of *York-shire* in their Petition) being the onely visible meanes under God, wherein consists the preservation of the Protestant Religion, the redemption of our brethren in Ireland, and the happinesse and prosperity of Your Majesty, and of all your dominions.

A Catalogue of the names of the Lords that subscribed to levie Horse to assist His Majesty in defence of, &c,

The Prince	200	E. of Cambridge	60	Lo. Rich	30
The Duke of York	120	E. of Bristol	60	Lo. Pawlet	40
		E. of Westmerland	20	Lo. Newark	30
Lord Keeper	40	E. of Barkshire and L. Andover	30	Lo. Mountague	30
Duke of Richmond	100	E. of Monmouth	30	Lo. Coventry	100
Lo: Marquesse Hartford	60	E. Rivers	30	Lo Savill	50
Lo: Great Chamberlain	30	E. of Carnarvan	20	Lo. Mohun	20
E. of Cumberland	50	E. of Newport	50	Lo. Dunsmore	40
E. of Huntington	20	Lo. Mowbray	50	Lo. Seymor	20
E. of Bath	50	Lo. Willoughby	30	Lo. Capell	100
E. of Southampton	60	Lo. Gray of Ruthin	30		
E. of Dorset	60	Lo. Lovelace	40	Lo. Faulkland	20
E. of Northampton	40	Lo. Paget	30	Mr. Comptroller	20
E. of Devonshire	60	Lo. Faulcombridge to come.		Mr. Secretary Nicholas	20
E. of Dover	25			Lo. Chief Iustice Banks	20

The Lord Thanet is not here, but one hath undertaken for 100. for him. Sum. total. 1659.

His Majesties Answer to the Petition of the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, presented to His Majesty at York, the 17. of June, 1642.

HIs Majesty having carefully weighed the matter of this Petition presented to Him at York on Friday the 17. of June, by the Lord *Howard*, Sir *Hugh Cholmeley*, and Sir *Philip Stapleton*; Though He might refer the Petitioners to His two last Declarations, wherein no of the particulars in this Petition are fully answered, or might refuse to give any Answer at all, till He had received satisfaction in those high Indignities He hath so oft complained of, and demanded Justice for; Yet that all the world may see how desirous His Majesty is to leave no Act which seemes to carry the Reputation of both His Houses of Parliament, and in the least degree to reflect upon His Majesties Justice and Honour, unanswered; Is graciously pleased to returne this Answer:

That if the Petition mentioned to be presented to both Houses of Parliament, had been annexed to this now delivered to Him, His Majesty might have discerned the number and quality of the Petitioners, which His Majesty hath great reason to beleeve, was not in truth so considerable as is pretended: For His Majesty assures you, That He hath never refused any Petition so attested as that would be thought to be; But His Majesty well remembers, that on the third of June, when there was upon His Majesties summons the greatest, and the most cheerfull concourse of people that ever was beheld of one County, appearing before Him at York; a Gentleman (one Sir *Thomas Fayrfax*) offered in that great Confluence a Petition to His Majesty, which His Majesty seeing to be avowed by no man but himself, and the generall and universall Acclamations of the people seeming to disclaim it, did not receive; conceiving it not to be of so publike a nature, as to be fit to be presented or received in that place: And His Majesty is most confident, (and in that must appeale to those were then present) that what ever the substance of that Petition was, it was not consented to by any considerable number of Gentry, or Freeholders of this County; but solicited, by a few, mean inconsiderable persons, and disliked, and visibly discountenanced by the great Body of the known Gentry, Clergy, and Inhabitants of this whole County: And if the matter of that Petition was such as is suggested in this, His Majesty hath great reason to beleeve it was framed and contrived (as many others of such nature have been) in *London*, not in *York-shire*; For sure no Gentleman of quality and understanding of this County would talk of His great preparations of Arms, and other Warlike Provisions, to the great terror and amazement of His peaceable Subjects, when they are witnesses of the violent taking His Arms from Him, and stopping all wayes for bringing more to Him; And if there were no greater Terrour and Amazement of His Majesties peaceable Subjects in other places by such Preparations and Provisions, there would be no more cause to complain of a great decay of Trade and Commerce there, then is in this place: But His Majesty hath so great an assurance of the fidelity and generall Affections of His good Subjects of this County, (which he hopes will prove exemplar over His whole Kingdom) that He hath great cause to beleeve, That they do rather complain of His Majesties Confidence, and of His

Slow-

slowneſſe; That whileſt there is ſuch endeavour abroad to raiſe Horſe, and to provide Armes againſt His Majeſty, and that endeavour put in execution, His Majeſty truſts ſo much to the juſtice of His Cauſe, and the Affections of His people, and neglects to provide ſtrength to aſſiſt that Juſtice, and to protect thoſe Affections.

For any affronts offered by the Earl of *Lindſey*, or the Lord *Savill*, to thoſe who intended to petition His Majeſty; His Majeſty wiſhes that both His Houſes of Parliament would have examined that Information, and the credit of the Informers, with that gravity and deliberation, as in caſes which concern the Innocence and Honour of Perſons of ſuch quality hath been accuſtomed, before they had proſcribed two Peers of the Realm, and expoſed them (as much as in them lay) to the rage and fury of the people, under the Character of being *Enemies to the Common-wealth*, A Brand newly found out (and of no Legall ſignification) to incenſe the people by, anp with which the ſimplicity of former times was not acquainted; And then His Majeſty hath ſome reaſon to beleeve they would have found themſelves as much abuſed in the report concerning thoſe Lords, as he is ſure they are in thoſe who tell them *of the reſort of great numbers and diſcontented Perſons to Him*, and of the other particulars mentioned to be in that Petition; Whereas they who obſerve what reſort is here to His Majeſty, well know it to be of the prime Gentlemen of all the Counties in *England*, whom nothing but the love of Religion, the care of the Lawr, and Liberties of the Kingdome, beſides their Affection to His Perſon, could engage into great Journeys, trouble and expence, Men of as precious Reputation, and as exemplary Lives, as this Nation hath any, whoſe aſſiſtance His Majeſty knows he muſt not expect, if he ſhould have the leaſt deſigne againſt Honour and Juſtice; And ſuch witneſſes his *Majeſty* deſires to have of all his Actions.

For the declining all other Counſels, and the Uniting His confidence to His Parliament, His *Majeſty* deſires both His Houſes of Parliament ſeriouſly and ſadly to conſider, that it is not the name of a great or little Councel that makes the Reſults of that Councel juſt or unjuſt; neither can the imputation upon His *Majeſty* of not being adviſed by His Parliament (eſpecially ſince all their Actions and all their Orders are expoſed to the Publike view) long miſlead his good Subjects, except in truth they ſee ſome particular ſound advice neceſſary to the peace and happineſſe of the Common-wealth diſcerned by His *Majeſty*, and ſuch an inſtance He is moſt aſſured neither can nor ſhall be given, and that they will think it merit in His *Majeſty* from the Common-wealth to reject ſuch Counſel as would perſwade him to make Himſelf none of the three Eſtates, by giving up His negative voice to allow them a Power ſuperior to that which the Law hath given Him, whenſoever it pleaſeth the major part preſent of both Houſes to ſay that he doth not diſcharge His truſt as He ought, and to ſubject His, and His Subjects unqueſtionable Right and Propriety to their Votes, without and againſt Law, upon the meer pretence of neceſſity. And His *Majeſty* muſt appeal to all the World, who it is that endeavours to diviſe the joynt duty of His Subjects, His *Majeſty* who requires nothing but what their own duty, guided by the infallible Rule of the Law, leads them to do, or they who by Orders and Votes (oppoſite and contradictory to Law, Cuſtome, preſident and reaſon) ſo confound the affections & underſtandings of His good Subjects, that

they know not how to behave themselves with honesty and safety, whilest their Conscience will not suffer them to submit to the one, nor their security to apply themselves to the other. It is not the bare saying that His Majesties Actions are against the Law (with which he is reproached in this Petition, as if he departed from his often Protestations to that purpose) must conclude him, there being no one such particular in that Petition alleadged, of which his Majesty is in the least degree guilty; Whether the same reverence and esteem be paid by you to the Law (except your own Votes be Judge) needs no other Evidence, then those many, very many Orders published in Print, both concerning the Church and State, those long Imprisonments of several all Persons without hearing them, upon generall Information, and the great and unlimited Fees to your Officers, worse then the Imprisonment; and the Arbitrary censure upon them when they are admitted to be heard; Let the Law be Judge by whom it is violated.

For that Part of the Petition which seems to accuse his Majesty of a purpose to dissolve this Parliament (contrary to the Act for the Continuance) by Commanding away the Lords and great Officers, whose attendance is necessary, which his Majesty well knows to be a new Calumny, by which the Grand Contrivers of ruine for the State hope to seduce the mindes of the People from their affection, or into Jealousie of his Majesty, as if he meant this way to bring this Parliament (which may be the case of all Parliaments) to nothing; it is not possible for his Majesty more to expresse His affection to, and His Resolution for the Freedome, Liberty and Frequency of Parliaments, then he hath done; And who ever considers how visible it must be to his Majesty, that it is impossible for him to subsist without the affections of his people, and that those affections cannot possibly be preserved or made use of but by Parliaments, cannot give the least credit, or have the least suspition, that his Majesty would chuse any other way to the happinesse he desires for himself and his Posterity, but by Parliaments: But for his calling the Lords hither, or any others absenting themselves, who have not been called, who ever considers the Tumults (which no Votes or Declaration can make to be no Tumults) by which his Majesty was driven away, and many Members of either House in danger of their lives, the demanding the names of those Lords who would not consent to their Propositions by Message from the House of Commons delivered at the Barre by Master *Hollis*, with that most tumultuous Petition in the Name of many thousands (amongs many other of the same kinde) directed to the House of Commons, and sent up by them to the House of Lords, taking notice of the prevalence of a malignant Faction, which made abortive all their good Motions, which tended to the Peace and Tranquillity of the Kingdome, desiring that those noble worthies of the House of Peers, who concurred with them in their happy Votes, might be earnestly desired to joyn with that honourable House, and to sit and Vote as one entire Body, professing that unlesse some speedy remedy were taken for the removeall of all such obstructions as hindered the happy progresse of their great endeavours, their Petitioners should not in quietnesse, but should bee inforced to lay hold on the next remedy which was at hand to remove the disturbers of their Peace, and (want and necessity breaking the bounds of modesty) not to leave any means unassayed for their reliefe, adding that the cry of the Poore and needy was, That such persons who were the Obstacles of their

their Peace, and hinderers of the happy proceedings of this Parliament might be forthwith publikely declared, whose remove all they conceived would put a Period to these distractions, upon which a great number of Lords departing, the Vote in order to Ordinance concerning the *Militia* was immediately past, though it had been twice before put to the Question, and rejected by the Votes of much the Major part of that Honse. And whosoever considers the strange Orders, Votes and Declarations which have since passed, to which whosoever would not consent, that is, with fredome and liberty of language and reason professe against, was in danger of Censure and Imprisonment, will not blame Our Care in sending for them, or theirs in comming, or absenting themselves from being involved in such Conclusions. Neither will it be any objection, that they stayed there long after any Tumults were, and therefore that the Tumults drave them not away: If every day produced Orders and Resolutions as illegall as, and indeed but the effects of the Tumults, there was no cause to doubt the same power would be ready to prevent an Opposition to those Orders after they were made, which had made way and preparation for the Propositions of them, and so whosoever conceived himself in danger of future Tumults (against which there is not the least provision) was driven away by those which were past; And his Majesty hath more reason to wonder at those who stay behinde, after all his Legall Power is Voted from him, and all the People told, That he might be with modesty and duty enough deposed, then any man hath at those who have been willing to withdraw themselves from the place where such desperate and dangerous Positions are avowed; which his Majesty doth not mention with the least mention with the least thought of lessening the Power or Validity of any Act, to which he hath given his Assent this Parliament; All and every of which he shall as inviolably observe, as he looks to have his own Rights preserved, but to shew by what meanes so many strange Orders have of late been made; And to shew how earnestly his Majesty desires to be present at, and to receive Advice from both Houses of Parliament (against whom it shall never be in the power of a Malignant Party to incense his Majesty) his Majesty againe offers his consent, that both Houses may be Adjourned to another Place, which may be thought convenient, where his Majesty will be present, and doubts not but the Members of either House will make a full Appearsnce; And even the Intermission which must attend such an Adjournment, may not be the least meanes of recovering that temper, which is necessary for such Debates.

And this His Majesty conceives to be so very necessary, that if the mindes and inclinations of every Member of either House were equally composed, the Licence is so great that the mean people about *London* and the Suburbs have taken, that both for the Liberty and Dignity of Parliament, that Convention for a time should be in another place. And sure how much soever the safety and security and security of this Kingdom depends on Parliaments, it will never be thought that those Parliaments must of necessity be at *Westminster*.

His Majesties Confidence is no lesse then he hath expressed (and hath great cause to expresse) in the affections of this Cpnnty, an instance of which affections all men know his Guard (which is not extraordinary) to be, and wonders that such a legall Guard at his own charge, for his Person (within twenty miles of a rebellion, and of an Army in pay against him) should be objected by those

who.

who for so many months, and in a place of known and confessed security, have without and against Law kept a guard for themselves at the charge of the Common-wealth, and upon that stock of money which was given for the relieefe of the miserable and bleeding condition of Ireland, or the payment of the great debt due to our Kingdome of Scotland.

For the resort of Papists to the Court, his *Majesties* great care for the prevention thereof is notoriously known, that when he was informed two or three of his intented Guard were of that Religion, he gave especiall direction, with expressions of his displeasure, that they should be immediately discharged, and provided that no person should attend on him under that Relation, but such as took the oaths of Allegiance and Supremacie; that hee commanded the Sheriffe to proceed with all severity according to the Law against all Papists that should come within five miles of the Court, and if notwithstanding this there be any Papists neer the Court (which his *Majesty* assures you he knowes not, nor hath heard but by this Petition) He doth hereby command them to depart, and declares to all Officers and *Ministers* of Justice, that they shall proceed strictly against them according to the Law, and as they will answer the contrary at their perils.

For the language and behaviour of the *Cavaliers* (a word by what mistake soever it seems much in disfavour) there hath not been the least complaint here, and therefore it is probable the fault was not found in this County. Neither can his *Majesty* imagine what is meant by the mention of any men thrust upon them in such Consultations and Propositions as his *Majesty* makes to this County, who are neither by their Fortune or Residence any part of it, and therefore can make no Answer to it.

To conclude, his *Majesty* assures you He hath never refused to receive any Petition, whether you have or no, your selves best know, and will consider what Reputation it will be to you of Justice or Ingenuity to receive all Petitions, how sensless and scandalous soever of one kind, under pretence of understanding the good peoples minds and affections, and not only refuse the Petition, but punish the Petitioners of another kind, under colour that it is a crime that they are not satisfied with your sense, as if you were only trusted by the people of one opinion; To take all paines to publish and print Petitions which agree with your wishes, though they were never presented, and to use the same Industry and Authority to keep those that indeed were presented and avowed from being published (though by Our owne Authority) because the Argument is not pleasant to you: To pretend Impartiality and Infallibility, and to expresse the greatest passion and affection in the Order of your Proceeding, and no lesse error and mis-understanding in your Judgements and Resolutions. He doth remember well the obligation of his Trust, and of his Oath, and desires that you will do so too, and your own solemn Vow and Protestation, and then you will not only think it convenient, but necessary to give his *Majesty* a full Reparation for all the scandalls laid upon him, and all the scandalous Positions made against him, and that it is lesse dishonour to retract errours, then by avowing to confesse the malice of them, and will see this to be the surest way for the preservation of the Protestant Religion, the redemption of Our Brethren in *Ireland*, the happinesse and prosperity of your selves and of all Our Dominions, and of the Dignity and Freedome of Parliament.

FINIS.